

THIS MONTH WE SALUTE

SPECIAL EVENT  
STATION K4GOP

(See Story Below)

# FLORIDA SKIP

Vol. 12 No. 4

THE ALL-FLORIDA RADIO AMATEUR'S PUBLICATION

SEPTEMBER 1968

Price 20c

## Radios Plagued By Solar Flare

Boulder, Colo. (AP) The largest, brightest solar flare since 1966 interrupted short - wave radio communications around the world Monday, the U.S. Space Disturbance Forecast Center reported.

Forecaster Karl Kildahl said the "noise storms," which interrupted transmission on a wide area of the short-wave band -- from 184 megacycles down to 10 megacycles -- had "mostly died down" Monday evening.

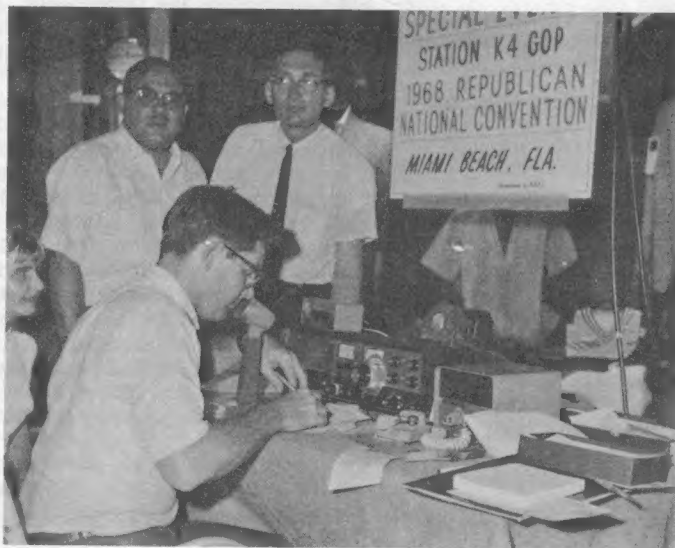
But, he said, computer analysis predicts a 64 percent chance there will be a second wave of interruptions from the same flare on July 10.

No one will ever see a solar flare with the naked eye, Kildahl said, but the sensitive instruments at the center here and a dozen or so "flare patrol" stations around the world see them often.

Flares occur just about every day, but not of the magnitude of the sighting Monday. They are caused by an intensification of the magnetic field surrounding the sun.

The result is an intense white spot on the red blob the sun appears to be when viewed through the filtered instruments used at the center. The flare gives off X-rays and protons, much like a hydrogen explosion, Kildahl explained. He was quick to add there is no radiation danger, because the earth is protected by its own magnetic field.

The change in the sun's magnetic field produces a change in the earth's magnetic field, and that's when short - wave transmissions suffer.



HERE IS A SHOT of our special events station K4GOP set up at Barons Slack Bar on the Miami Beach Mall only a couple of blocks from Convention Hall. WA4RRB is racking up the 20 SSB contacts while WB4DLE (left) and WA4DHU look on. (SKIP photo)

## K4GOP Report

By DICK BLASCO WA4DHU - Special Assistant to the Editor

The Republicans have come and gone, and the city of Miami Beach is getting back to normal. Something all the delegates will remember about our fair city is the all-out effort made to make them welcome. Dade County amateurs were there, too, and special events station K4GOP was active during the duration of the convention, handling radiograms

Were it not for a quick alert system, larger, brighter flares also could cause widespread power outages, Kildahl said. He explained that changes in the magnetic field could cause overloaded power lines and then, blown transformers.

and introducing the public to the wonderful world of amateur radio. This is the FIRST time an Amateur Radio Station Has Ever Been Set up at a National Political Convention.

K4GOP was born right in ye SKIP office (AC's shack) last deadline time. Andy and yours truly were wrapping up the copy for August's SKIP when the topic of the upcoming convention came up. We decided that certainly there should be some sort of exhibit station set up, at the hotels if possible.

A few nights later Chuck Bolvin W4LVV, Larry W4FHZ, Andy W4IYT and I held a meeting in AC's shack. The result

(Continued on Page 8)

## Southwest High Offers Classes in FCC Radio

Southwest High Adult Night School will begin new classes in Amateur (Ham) Radio and in the Commercial Second Class Phone course. These classes will begin on September 3rd.

All interested persons should inquire at Southwest High School Office (8855 S.W. 50th Terrace) Miami or call 274-0181 after 2 P.M. The registration cost for each course is \$2.00, and the student must purchase all texts.

## - Silent Keys -

We are very sorry to report the passing of the following Florida amateurs:

K4RNR, Jim Campbell, Ormond Beach, Florida.

K4NQL, Dick Thompson, Tampa, Florida.

W4PMX, Andy Stough, Largo, Florida.

W4CKX, Dave Hollinger, Sarasota, Florida.

Edward R. Baer, son of W9-ACE, brother W4ROA ex K9-TVA.

## Labor Day BEBA

Bring 'Em Back Alive (BEBA) this Labor Day weekend will be conducted again from AAA Hq. in Orlando. W4BKC and K4UIZ will be monitoring 7240 during the day for all BEBA reports. All amateurs are requested to help as they did during the last BEBA last month.

Good luck and BRING 'EM BACK ALIVE!

## FLORIDA SKIP, INC.

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Miami Springs, Florida 33166

Enclosed is \$2.00 for 1 year or \$5.00 for 3 years.  
for my membership to Florida Skip.

☐ New ☐ Renewal

My CORRECT address is:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

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Deadline — 10th of month in Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166.

PERMISSION: Anything in Florida Skip may be reprinted in any other amateur radio publication in the world with a Credit Line please.

Dear Mabel XYL Award, c/o Skip,  
Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla.

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2/FLORIDA SKIP September 1968

## Guest Editorial

By GENE SYKES, W4BRB

TODAY'S HAM HAS BEEN DEPRIVED OF a certain rightful share of radio's fullest participation and frustration by the inroads of modern technical development. Operating aids such as rotary beams, mechanical filters and that Devil's creation, SSB (to mention a few) have, each, slyly infiltrated our hobby to a point where much of the challenge (and frustration) has been removed and results seem almost automatic. At times it appears that the only development lacking is a solid-state, computerized ham station, programmed to perform all functions sans operator even unto the accurate prediction of contest scores and band openings. Back when this editor was a colt amateurs were Hams and they brewed up a mixture of rigs (and the signals to go with them, too!) out of whatever ingredients were available on a "Beg, borrow or steal" basis. If the stock on hand did not exactly agree with the recipe, then it was the recipe that was changed to accommodate the ingredients. As Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan (a pair of Hams in their own right) might have sang, "We made the crime fit the punishment...."

AND, WE DIDN'T HIDE THOSE RIGS in fancy boxes, either, nor camouflage them with a facade of ornamental gadgetry. Mostly they were built on and across the top of old kitchen tables (and, occasionally, up the side of an adjacent wall as well) — an ultra-flexible constructional concept, popular in those pre-boob tube days and one that offered the ultimate in ventilation and cockroach elimination whilst permitting direct observation of tube colors during tune-up. Everyone knew that tube coloring was the only true indicator of circuit resonance and loading and that dough wasted on meters was better invested in tubes (of which we used quite a few!) Only sissies went in for fuses — which have always been notorious for failure at critical moments. Our protective devices were built around the Indian head penny and we were hooked on them. No one has ever heard of an Indian Head failing during the Sweepstakes!

BUT — THE REAL DIFFERENCE LAY WITH THE OPERATORS, THEMSELVES. We were — all of us — primarily CW operators and good ones, too! We had to be for fone stations were few and far between and there was no question of mode if you wanted to work the good stuff and, oftentimes, even on CW this was a chore. We didn't have those sneaky Twiggy Filters nor beam antennae to suck up the weak ones but we cranked up the gain (if there was any), drove the cans deeper into our Eustachian tubes, held the breath and, sometimes, prayed those weak ones home. Successful DX-ing was an index of the Ham's determination and ability to withstand pain and the real heroes of early DX days were those "phonemen" who waded, waist-deep, in heterodynes to snatch new ones from the undertow. We regarded them almost as permanent residents of Olympus and they deserved the title. Their lairs bore out the illusion for they did, indeed resemble the abodes of Gods. Surrounded by coffin-like structures housing groaning pole pigs and illuminated by funereal rectifiers, they practiced their nocturnal rites to the accompanying cacophony of an infinite variety of sounds — none of which were provably human in origin and they were the Giants of the era.

YET, NOTHING IS PERMANENT SAVE CHANGE AND, exactly as it had to other giants in other eras, Change tapped our Giant and bid it begone. As Paleolithic monsters, aeons ago, retreated from the onslaught of more nimble predators so did our A.M. dinosaurs fade from the attack of SSB, that subtle, shadowless, spoiler and with their end came the end of an era. No longer is it necessary to operate amid hideous heterodynes and massive machinery for the banshees have been laid to rest and the hardware comes packaged in gaudy mini-boxes. No longer shall the phone DX'er endure aural agony in his search for the elusive for the spoiler has depained the effort and, in the doing, devaluated the operator. There must be little challenge and even less thrill in painless operating even as, we suppose, there is neither pride nor

(Continued on Page 15)

### CLUBS

Broward ARC, W4GDK, Ft. Lauderdale  
NFARS, K4DSN, Jacksonville  
W. Fla., W4RKH, Ft. Walton Bch.  
Floridara, W4LKM, Ft. Laud.  
Orlando ARC, W4BKC, Orlando  
HARS W4NQX Tampa  
TARC, WA4HDK, Tampa  
VERO BEACH ARC, WA4QVJ,  
Vero Beach.  
Platinum Coast ARS, WN4FVA,  
Melbourne  
GULFSTREAM SOCIETY of A.R.  
OPS WB4AID, Lake Worth.  
So. Miami, W4NE, Miami.  
DADE ARC - W4EDP, Miami  
Suncoast Roving and Floridara, W-  
4BAV, Sarasota  
Indian River ARC, W4EWB Gaines-  
ville, ARS, WA4SXD.

## Ham Interference

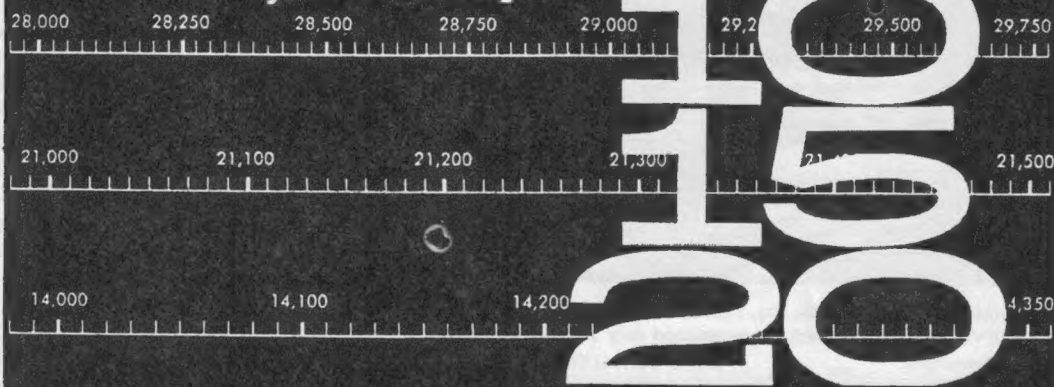
HAM OPERATORS get blamed for many things, but this tops them all. A Seattle woman complained repeatedly to Congress and FCC about TV interference from a ham station. She alleged the ham caused the house to vibrate, plaster to fall and crack the TV screen, interference on the telephone and also caused her internal "jiggling." FCC remedied her TV set but asserted that her vibration were beyond federal jurisdiction. She hired a geophysical expert who concluded only that when she complained of tremors the ham usually was not on the air.

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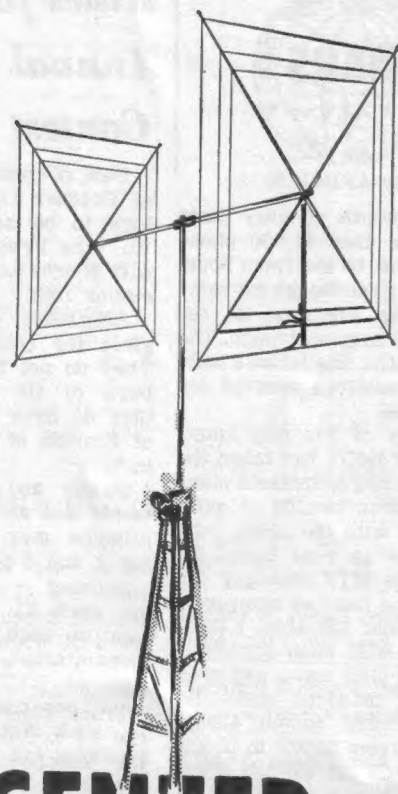
Model MCQ-15 for 15 meters

Model MCQ-20 for 20 meters

### TRI-BAND QUAD

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A HAM SHACK THAT AM... Army MARS, Fla. I District Director, Ed Craft, AD4BYI (WA4BYI) of Pensacola. Ed was appointed July 1st. See Army MARS column elsewhere. —photo by W4IKB



By AFB4JTK

In the month of July there were more than 11,000 phone patches sent to and from South East Asia. Even though the summer months are upon us, the traffic still comes through. The written traffic has fallen a little and the vacations account for most of this.

As many of you may know, Poncho, AF4MOY has taken the reins as acting operations manager for area two. It is quite a job and with the other jobs he has, he is real busy. He is also the MTS manager for the area and handles many problems in that job also. I think that ECR will soon appoint a permanent OPS mgr., and area two voice manager soon. Be sure to listen in on 4599.5 any night from 2300Z to 0200Z and you will get all the dope.

The new base MARS director, AF4RQP, is getting along fine in his new position. After Ron, AFC4UIA left for California, Bernie was appointed. He has his work cut out for him in this person's opinion, but he will certainly do a fine job.

Now that I have a mimeograph machine here in my house the Florida newsletter will come out (I hope) on any given date.

I wish to thank Carroll, AF4-ZCZ for his fine attitude in the printing of the first 5 news-4/FLORIDA SKIP September 1968

## Rules for the Annual Floridora Contest

Date of contest -- The month of October LOGS -- Copy of logs to be sent to Floridora YL Vice President, WA4BMC, with scores totaled, before November 15th.

Eligibility -- All YLs eligible for contest or contacts. They do not have to be members of the Floridoras, but they do have to be in the state of Florida at the time of contact.

Bands and Modes -- All bands and all modes of transmission may be used, including 2 and 6 meters and RTTY.

Scoring -- Count 1 point for each YL worked on each band on each different mode of transmission, with the exclusion of RTTY where only 1 point, one time, may be counted. Club station W4FE counts 5 points, but only good for one contact.

Prizes -- To be awarded for high scores.

letters. It couldn't be done without him. There have been nothing but fine compliments on our own newsletter. Why not Join AF MARS and get one. If interested let any AF MARS member know about your interest and he will see that you get on your way.

That's all for this month. How about some news you guys.

## Whisperings From Assistant SEC

Tom Chisholm W4FP/A4FP

In the November 1967 issue of FLORIDA SKIP I devoted most of my column to the importance of publicizing and defending the many services and good deeds of Amateur Radio, especially when it is criticized unjustly by an immature or irresponsible press.

The latest successful attempt to pass out false information relating to the clan comes from a Mrs. Alice Blackstone of Miami, who was interviewed by the MIAMI NEWS on July 3, 1968. It appears that Mrs. Blackburn is a very devout Citizen Bander, devoting most of her time rendering all kinds of public service, such as helping motorists lost or stranded, Red Cross help, and numerous other fine activities, including round the clock CB monitoring on weekends, commanding and dispatching a mobile fleet of

bile fleet of many CB'ers all over the place. They even have a chosen group who wear uniforms. I thought this was a fine service and a fine story which occupied a nice spot in the MIAMI NEWS, with a photo about half the size of a FLORIDA SKIP page, showing Mrs. Blackstone and her husband at the master controls of the CB club station. I know that all who read the article in the Miami News must sleep more comfortable each night knowing such a fine voluntary organization exists in their city. I was concerned, however, when Mrs. Blackstone was quoted as follows:

"Don't call us Hans" warns Alice, "That's for people who just want to chatter with strangers all over the world, we're called CB's".

I dropped a line to the Miami News on July 15 (Lakeland's a long way from Miami hi) advising them of the inaccuracy of the Blackstone statement. I also included a gift to the Editor, a copy of ARRL 'Operating an Amateur Radio Station,' and 'Public Service Communications. I was pleasantly surprised to see the

contents of my letter in the Miami News July 20. Only the last paragraph was omitted as it referred to my gift to the Editor.

I have little hope of my letter undoing most of the damage done to our avocation. I do feel, however, that the Miami News has learned a bit more of the national and world-wide facilities of the ARRL and over 280,000 American amateurs that compose the many separate groups performing all kinds of public service, including experimenting, building, conducting free radio courses for the interested public and of course, the large group of amateurs who devote part or all of their time to military moral messages to and from the various theatres of war and military camps.

When such slander by omission or otherwise to the clan appears in the press or any other media, the Editor should be availed with letters of education and protest.

Congratulations to the EC's and their AREC groups for a job well done on the 1968 SET. E. Florida reached second place with 2057 points. Second place is not new to E. Fla. having reached there many times. I was certain we could reach first place. I was never so wrong. (156 points wrong). Perhaps we can get all EC's to participate in Jan. 1969 SET.

The K4GOP story, I'm certain will find much space in this issue of SKIP.



TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT FLORIDA SKIP



## Letters To Editor

I have a favor to ask and maybe you or some of your readers can help. I teach electricity and electronics at Ponce de Leon Jr. High in Coral Gables, Fla.

The program operates on a limited, fixed budget and in order for the students to have enough supplies for projects in electronics, I use capacitors, resistors, and transformers from old television sets.

Several of the items we are in short supply of include capacitors in the range of .25 mfd. to .1 watt at a rating of 200 to 600 volts. Also, 1/2 or 1 watt resistors between the values of 1 meg. to 4.7 meg. Used parts are just as good as new since we test each item before using it anyway.

I hope some readers or clubs will be able to send the items mentioned to the address below.

Max Holland, W4MEA  
5801 Augusto St.  
Coral Gables, Fla. 33146

I am a new Ham on the Florida West Coast, W4VHS, but not a new Ham from point of activity. Have been a Ham since 1928, and was the holder of WØJED since 1931. Have been a member of ARRL since 1931 and a member of QCWA since 1964. Fact is I am a life member of QCWA.

I would like to subscribe to your Florida Skip, and at the same time, advertise some of my surplus gear. Enclosed is my check to cover the subscription, plus the cost of the ad, I hope. (See Hambar)

Am on the air presently with Collins S line and Henry 2K2 Linear, on 10, 15, 20 and 2 el beam. Hope to be on 40 and 75 before too long. Also hope to have a 40 ft. tower and quad before too long.

W.C. Swanson, W4VHS ex WØJED  
1293 Indian Rocks Rd.,  
Largo, Fla. 33540

### - NO JUSTICE -

Dear Andy:

Many times in reading through "Skip" I have found myself thinking of something that may interest your readers. Therefore I submit the following.

When WWII started I was drafted before the fires were out at Pearl Harbor, and having absolutely no excuse for an exemption, I found myself a 21 dollar a month private. I tried for signal corps but was turned down by a review board that would not admit that an oscillatory circuit consisted of a coil and capacitor. I was sent to Aberdeen Proving Ground in the Ordinance Department. I attended several schools and shipped to Hawaii where I was assigned to a company that serviced all kinds of big guns. When Bell Telephone Labs developed the first electronic computer for anti-aircraft fire control I was selected to attend their school. We serviced these computers for about a year until the big push started in the Pacific.

We went ashore on Guam with the 77th division and had a rugged time of it. We were no longer anti-aircraft maintenance, we just worked on everything and did the best we could. Word got back to us that the infantry was having trouble with their "bazookas" and the sergeant in charge of the section that was assigned to maintain them was talking his problem over at mess. I told him that I thought I could help because the firing mechanism was a coil of wire passed through a magnetic field to produce enough electricity to fire the rockets. I asked for one piece that would not fire, one that would fire intermittently, and one that fired all the time. I took a voltmeter and connected a small capacitor across it and experimented with various shunts for the meter until I had a scale calibrated like a tube tester. It worked out real good and the last I heard it was still being used. The commanding general of the 77th division was inspecting our outfit one day and was shown the tester I had made. He

## STATISTICS

Top ten (10) countries in Ham Licenses in the World.

|     |                           |           |
|-----|---------------------------|-----------|
| 1.  | United States (K,W)       | 287,123 * |
| 2.  | England (G)               | 14,754    |
| 3.  | Canada (VE)               | 12,182    |
| 4.  | West Germany (DJ, DK, DL) | 11,902    |
| 5.  | Argentina (LU)            | 11,972    |
| 6.  | Japan (JA, JH)            | 11,263    |
| 7.  | Brazil (PY)               | 9,216     |
| 8.  | Australia (VK)            | 5,363     |
| 9.  | New Zealand (ZL)          | 3,675     |
| 10. | Sweden (SL, SM)           | 3,640     |

\*Total shown for United States includes Hawaii and Alaska.  
Total for Continental United States is 284,439.

(HAM-GAB)

## Final Field Day Scores

To date here are claimed Florida Field Day scores. Have you sent yours?

### MULTI-TRANSMITTER CLASS

|                                |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| North Fla. ARS W4IZ            | 14,674 |
| Panama City ARC W4JJ           | 10,333 |
| Fort Myers ARC W4LX            | 8,982  |
| W4BAW (Individual - 7 ops)     | 8,116  |
| Five Flags ARS Pensacola K4CFS | 5,675  |
| Dade Radio Club W4NVU          | 4,712  |
| Indian River ARC WA4KJV        | 3,911  |
| Manatee ARC K4GG               | 3,014  |
| Biscayne ARC                   | 2,392  |
| South Miami ARC K4JVA          | 900    |

### SINGLE-TRANSMITTER CLASS

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Panama City ARC W4JJ     | 6,003 |
| Beaches ARS W4FJA        | 5,946 |
| W4OZF (Individual-2 ops) | 4,007 |
| W4BRB (Individual)       | 3,732 |
| K4LFF (Individual-1 op)  | 1,410 |

awarded the sergeant I made it for the Legion of Merit Medal.

Ed Klar, W4FAD

Dear Andy:

Many thanks for the print. Mom gets a big kick out of such as that in our little hometown of Apalachicola, Fla. (Population approx. 3,300).

SKIP is the greatest thing going and find more interest in it than the big guns (QST, CQ, etc.) because it's about people we know and work with.

Ed, W4UQZ

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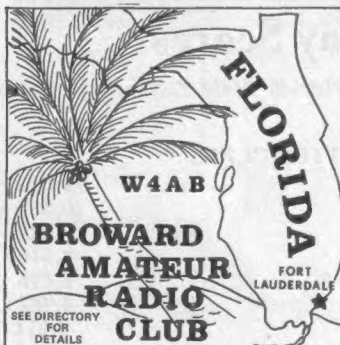


# CLUB NEWS

## B.A.R.C. NEWS

By Jim Wilson W4GDK

Our attendance has been holding up remarkably well despite the fact that many of our "Snowbirds" are up North for the summer. Having seen on TV the 95-100-105 degree temperatures up North we sympathize with them while we enjoy temperatures of under 90 degrees. Why not try Florida in the summer gang?



## HILLSBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC. WA4GJJ

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THE TAMPA HAMFEST  
October 13, 1968  
LOWRY PARK

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Mail - 4401 W. Cayuga 33614

## DADE RADIO CLUB, INC. W4NVU

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- MEETINGS -  
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## FLORIDA SIDEBAND ASSOCIATION

Meets Sundays 2200 GMT - 3940kHz



FSBEN - Thurs.  
3940kHz  
0030 GMT  
FAST Net  
Daily  
3940 kHz  
2300 GMT

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION  
All Sidebanders Always Welcome

At our next meeting Jerry Kemler W4OJU will show slides of his recent expedition to Yucatan to recover ancient relics from underwater. This program should be of interest to both the armchair and the active adventurer.

Our Club President Ivan Peterson W4EOD had an unscheduled contact with WA4UYO, Ken Nordine, former club official who is mobile in Tennessee while on vacation. A land line message to Ken's mother was made. Lucky coincidence!

We were very sorry to learn that Al Henderson WA4NFM of the club has had a coronary and is at present confined in intensive care in Holy Cross Hospital in Ft. Lauderdale. We certainly hope Al that you are released soon and can get back into the full swing of things.

The Broward Amateur Radio Club meets at the Broward County Medical Ass'n. Bldg., 2200 So Andrews Ave., Ft. Lauderdale the second Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. Coffee is served.

## SUNCOAST ROVING REPORTER

By Cathy Soehl - W4BAV/AREA

SPARC meeting, held Aug. 2nd, was well attended, with new members being welcomed: WN4JLR - Paul and XY-L-Doris Jane Smith and WA4VOO - Walt Leveille, who has "returned to the fold." It was good seeing W2CNQ (ex-W4DBA) - Lowell White, of N.J. and former member of SPARC, who is in town to see his 2-month old great-grandson. Also at the meeting was WB4GHP - Lt. Pat O'Connor, who many may have talked to on K2USA, Ft. Mon-

## NORTH FLORIDA AMATEUR RADIO SOC.

**NOFARS**



MEETS  
2nd THURSDAY  
AT 7:30 P.M.  
DUVAL CD HDQTRS.  
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ARRL W4/K4 QSL Bureau  
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Hickory, N.C. 28601  
NEW WA4 WB4 WN4  
QSL MANAGER.

J.R. Baker, W4LR,  
1402 Orange Street  
Melbourne, Fla. 32951

mouth, where he will be returning soon. W4JPI-Joe gave preview of some interesting programs scheduled for Sept. and Oct.

Clear the frequency! Here comes W4PWB-Walt Wentworth with his Swan Mark 1 Linear. Besides being Alt. N.C. on "Country Cousins", he assists on the YL SSB System, on 14332 KC at 1600 EDST.

Activities are picking up around the Suncoast area: the Clearwater Radio Club is reactivated and a new Club in St. Petersburg, known as "Skyway VHF Club." K4HQA-Art Bond, President; WA4TXK-"Walt" Walters, Communications Mgr., will hold on-the-air meetings Thurs., 8 PM, 50.7 MC. Sorry to hear Suncoast VHF Club has disbanded and our best wishes to the new ones.

K4VNA-Walt & W4IUR-Mims Cook celebrated their 25th anniversary July 10th and were thrilled with their anniversary gift: a new granddaughter, named Lana Lisa. Congrats to Grandma and Grandpa.

K4BUM-Claude Leroux in Mound Park Hospital, St. Pete, suffered a heart attack. Trust he is fully recuperated.

## FLA. VHF SIDEBANDERS

By R.D. Raiston - K4LFF

As usual, the day after I mail this column in, we get something that would be good reading. Last month a few of the fellows W4BCL, W4DPH, WA4MHS and others had the pleasure of working Bob KV4FU and Bill, ZF-1DT. At the time, I had not got my new beam up. I didn't get a chance to say hello to Helen, WIHOY/KP4.

Any one using the Cushcraft beams, especially the 6 element might be interested to know that a new type Reddi match is available to get your SWR down. If it is not below 1.5 to 1, write to WIBX at the factory. Maybe I should have waited for the Telrex or J-beam, but the insurance company (and me) was getting impatient to see a beam on the tower. I sure hope this one stays up for longer than the last one did. I guess some of us are just born unlucky.

Don't forget that the Bartow VHF Picnic is the first Sunday after Labor Day (following Sunday in case of hurricane). Hope to see many of you there.

Bill, K4GDD is looking for a 40 ft. crank up and over. Any info can be sent to me and I'll call him on the phone. This seems to be it for this month. Has any one missed the VHF column that WA4BMC used to have each month? Wonder what happened to her? Keep the news coming in.

## I.R.A.R.C. NEWS

By S. T. Walker, Sr. W4EWB

I made contact with Columbia for a student to talk to his wife. Ham radio sure pays off and it makes one feel good to be able to do a good service via Amateur Radio and also further the international relationship of our two countries.

Heard some new calls on two meters on 146.97 MHz. It sure is good to hear activity picking up. Mark, W4FJE, who formally worked for WEZY and WRKT and now works for G.E. is active on two meters from Sharpes area just north of Cocoa. Zlg, W4ZEY, is on two from Merritt Island with a Tower and a Halo antenna inside his apartment. Zlg is trying to tape a thunder storm but they seem to keep passing him by.

The Two Meter Net on Thursday evening at 0800 GMT on 146.502 MHz is improving with more check ins. But the 75 Meter Net on Sunday at 1230 GMT for CW and 1300 GMT for AM on 3.825 MHz, sure sounds pitiful. How about it fellows, let's hear more signals on before we have to move off that part of the band this fall.

Tom, W4HCG is resting at home after a serious bout with an ulcer.

Don, WA4KJV, our club president, has just returned from vacation with news that he took the Advanced Class license examination while in Detroit.

## WESTERN FLA. NEWS

By Frank M. Butler, Jr., W4RKH

A.L.O. Director called meeting is scheduled for Sept. 14 in Atlanta with a most comprehensive agenda.

Pensacola: WA4WAR is the new EC for Escambia county. W4JTV has completed his new antenna system and is again active on all H.F.

Panama City: WA4ZGI and his XYL WB4EZZ have moved to Lakeland and is now with the Florida Highway Patrol. W7BNR/4 announces that the West Florida Phone Net annual picnic will be held at St. Andrews State Park on Aug. 25.

Fort Walton Beach: SCM W4RKH is T.D.Y. for approx. one month in Washington D.C. WB4EER EC has revised the county Emergency Procedure Operating Manual for Okaloosa County. During the BEBA net WB4EER came upon a highway accident and following a call on 146.94 FM within moments had an ambulance and county authorities on the spot. W4JNI and WA4DUF are now mobile on 146.94 FM.

ChIPLEY: WA4ZFK is now mobile on 146.94 FM. Madison: W4RCO is now active on 146.94 FM along with WA4GHE. W4WMA will soon have his 146.94 FM rig installed in his car.

## FLORIDORA NEWS

By Annette Thompson W4LKM

W4UEW - Helen has been in Maine for six weeks with her OM, who has been there on business. They will be glad to get back to Florida.

W4IUR - Mim and OM Walt celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. Arriving on the proper date was their best present - a new granddaughter, Lana Lisa.

A number of the Floridors are active in the Florida Sidebanders. Several made PEP recently -- WA4BMC - Bertha on July 28th, K4RNS-Marge (for the second time) on June 30th, and K4WXS-Lee on April 14th.

K4RHL-Elle's son, Jock, came in third in class and seventh overall in the Palm Beach to Freeport Race. His entry was an ocean racer with three outboard motors. Waves were very high, especially on the return.

K4JGU-Mildred and OM Phil have had a long vacation in their trailer. They visited WA8CGZ in Detroit, and both their families, and camped awhile in N.C. They left their trailer there and after a few weeks at home they will return to the mountains.

W4LPR-Adele had to share her husband with the Republican convention! Red is a telephone supervisor and had to spend a great deal of time at the Convention Hall and the Fountainebleau! They are looking forward to the Melbourne Hamfest.

At the close of the Floridora Net on Tuesdays, OMs are sometimes waiting for contacts for their Flori-

dora certificate. WB4FLW-Ted even worked the club station, W4FE, which counts as two contacts.

Floridoras are shocked and sorrowful over the loss of K4RNR-Jim, OM of K4RNS. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Marge.

## SOUTH MIAMI

By George WN4JFA

The South Miami Radio Club had a short meeting on July 25, and a film was shown from the ARRL on Propagation which was quite interesting. The club will not have another meeting till September 5 which we will go back to our twice monthly meetings.

We will be running our code class which will have started by the time you read this but come over anyhow as you can catchup fast.

For more info see last months Fla. Skip or call 238-2583 after five. Well that's about all, see you in September and remember to bring a friend. We meet at Ponce de Leon Jr. High Industrial Arts Bldg. in the rear of the school at 8:00 p.m. sharp, Thursday.

## SKYWAY VHF CLUB

By William Kessler K4LPU

The Skyway VHF Club will meet Thursdays 8 p.m. on 50.7. The initial meeting held August 8th by Communications Manager WA4TXK who introduced the officers: K4HQA, Art, President; WB4LDO Jim, Vice President; K4PNH Sonya, Secy-Treas.; WB4GHM Larry, Program Manager; K4LPU Bill, Tech Manager.

After talk on power supply by K4LPU and roll call WA4TXK had several check-ins.

Anyone with genuine interest in ham radio is welcome to join, promote good fellowship, information and education. All licensed amateurs may obtain full membership. Associate membership offered to others.

## ODE TO FOOLISHNESS

By Jim, WA4TWD

Analysis of situations  
Based on mere assumption  
Are oft times an indication  
of total lack of gumption.  
Some OM tells us "Signal's beautiful!"

And we assume that this is so  
'Til the postman oh! so dutiful  
Delivers a card from some  
Double-O.

We assume we aren't flat-top-  
ping

And merrily chat away

Then some "Lid" with a 'scope  
is stopping

Our best DX Q-SO of the day  
To assume we've proper harmonic  
suppression

And modulation that's a pip  
Is an invitation to the depression  
In receiving our first "Pink  
Slip".

Black is black and white is  
white

And there are no shades of gray  
Mistakes and errors come to  
light

When assumption has its way  
Most problems it will soften  
It's spelled ASSUME

But when utilized too often  
It makes an ASS of U and ME.

# International SSB's, Inc.

Those of you who would like to work rare DX stations without having to try and blast through a pile-up, give a listen for the YL International Single Sideband Communication System.

This organization holds forth on 14,332 kc. seven days a week, starting at 11:00 A.M. and running until 7:00 P.M., EST until the wee hours of Saturday morning the System operates from VK and ZL land on the same frequency. The procedure for checking into the System is as follows (don't call it a Net--they don't like that): Wait until your call area is called by the control station, then break in and the control station will pick you up and put you in his log. When your turn comes you will be allowed to call any two stations you have heard -- foreign or domestic. Once you have been checked in you may be called by any of the other stations on frequency when their turn comes and you will be called again by the control station on the next go-round. On a typical day there are 100 or more stations on frequency, quite a number of which are DX.

The YL International SSBers, Inc. was founded February 9, 1963 by V. Mayree Tallman, K4ICA, and now has more than 6200 members in more than 200 countries. Although as the name implies, this is a YL organization, a preponderance of the members are OMs. The System's motto is "Dedicated to the building of friendship among all the peoples of the earth thru amateur radio, and to be of service to our fellow man wherever they may be."

The primary purpose of the System is to handle international emergency and medical traffic. They are not a routine net. When there are no emergencies on the System the members



HERE IS K4FMA/ET3FMA/9E3FMA/9F3FMA, Don Murray in operation. Don is now back in Miami and he advises he will have QSLs at the 1969 Miami Hamboree for all his contacts, contests and others. Look for him near the DXers booth. —photo from ET3FMA



MEET NEAL LATORRACCA, I10VL of Rome, Italy. Many a Florida amateur has worked Neal on the Spaghetti net daily on 14323 between 5 and 7 p.m. EDST. —photo via WB4AJV

make contact s with each other for a very beautiful awards program. Stations with emergency traffic may break in at any time. Also DX stations may check into the System whenever they can copy the U.S.

Membership dues are \$3 per year. For this the member receives an ISSB number used to identify them when contacts are made for the awards program

and also are used when corresponding with other members. They also receive membership lists and very interesting news letters containing pictures and information about the more active members.

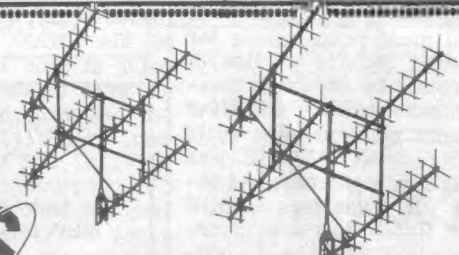
For complete information on the System send 15¢ to V. Mayree Tallman-K4ICA, 428 S.W. 28th Road, Miami, Florida. 331-29. (WA4GUZ-Sparc Gap)

## Still Another of the Leaders...

# ANTENNA

Cushcraft

for the Radio Amateur.



## GRICE ELECTRONICS, INC.

320 East Gregory Street  
Pensacola, Fla. 433-4616





PEOPLE ARE LINED UP waiting to send messages from K4GOP. Bob Lightner WA4PWF gives instructions on how to fill out the message form. Over 840 messages originated during the GOP convention.

## K4GOP SPECIAL REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

was a committee which immediately went to work to get the project off the ground. The next two weeks of telephone calls and smooth talking yielded everything but a location. Finally Frank Nankin, K4BNZ of Miami Beach volunteered his services and located a spot for us on the Lincoln Road Mall (two blocks from Convention Hall). Thanks to the courtesy of Baron's Slack Bar on the Mall we finally had a home. A special thanks to Ted K4ONY. for all his excellent work with Frank K4BNZ.

S.E. A.R.R.L. Director, Chuck W4LVV, made a few phone calls of his own, and came up with our special call K4-GOP, an ARRL official bulletin, and financial backing to have a few signs made up. Bob Lightner, WA4PWF joined in the efforts and made many a phone call getting gear together. W4IYT got signs made up and made preparations for the public service portion of the project by obtaining message blanks, pencils, and all of the things everyone else would have forgotten. WA4DHU was coordinating equipment and obtaining the blessings of Bill Murfin, Republican state chairman, for K4GOP to be the official convention station. George Henning, WN4JFA talked to the local news media and broadcast stations and informed them of our activity. The Miami Beach

Sun and one local station WVCG gave several announcements of our upcoming project a few days before hand.

The week prior to convention another meeting was held, and Don K4FMA, Jim WA4BAW, Ernie K4KIC, Joe WB4HIS, George WN4JFA, Bob WB4JDG, W4IYT and WA4DHU attended to make final plans. Hal W4YP agreed to handle Viet Nam traffic for us, and Moe K4DJW agreed to be our SSB backup. WA4PWF, WA4RRB, WN4JFA, WB4HIS, W4EHW, W4IYT and WA4DHU all showed up to put up antennas the next Saturday.

Everything in readiness, K4-GOP got on the air. We wish to thank the following for coming over and operating (or helping the public fill out message forms): WB4HIS, K4KIC, W4ILE, K4FMA, WA4BAW, K4BNZ, K4TCV, WB4JDG, W4LVV, WB4EIZ, W4IYT and WA4DHU. Extra special thanks to W4IYT for keeping the ball rolling when things looked bleak, WA4PWF for use of his SWAN 500C and for being at hand 100% of the time we were on the air, WA4RRB for his many hours of operation, WA4TWD for the use of his HW-12A, and Mae Burke W3-CUL in Pennsylvania for handling the bulk of the 847 messages sent from or through K4-GOP.

# What Is Radio Amateur?

The Amateur Radio Operator is the complete opposite of the commercial radio user. He may not use his station for his own gain, meaning he may not use it for business. But beyond that he may talk to any other amateur station anywhere in the world and say anything he pleases. Yes, hams can and do talk to other hams in Russia, Cuba and other Iron Curtain countries (though there are none in Viet Nam or China.) In fact, Russia actually encourages amateur operation as much as any other government!

Amateurs are encouraged to design and build their own equipment, and many do so even though commercially-built equipment of very high quality is available quite reasonably. Even the lowest grade licensee may make any adjustment to his equipment, since he alone is responsible for its proper operation.

The Amateur is permitted to use up to 1000 watts transmitter power - as much as many smaller broadcast stations - although only a minority actually use the limit. Many amateurs have made worldwide contacts using very low power. On the other hand, amateurs have made many two-way contacts via the Moon - a feat which experts can easily prove is impossible with even the maximum power allowed the Ham!

Amateurs can and do talk with each other by a variety of modes. They of course use voice, both AM, FM and, these

days, mostly a new mode called Single Sideband.

Amateur Teletype is becoming more and more popular. Amateur Television is continually growing. Publicity has recently been given to a two-way television circuit established between Minnesota and Antarctica - by Amateurs!

But the old dot-dash code is continually popular. And for good reason. The code actually isn't too hard to learn, and once learned it's quite pleasant to use. And code (C.W. as it's called) is by far the simplest method of communications and the most efficient. The Army knows this in Viet Nam - with all the latest sophisticated equipment they often have to revert to CW to get the message through.

## HOW TO BECOME AN AMATEUR

Any citizen regardless of age can become a ham. The beginner should start with the Novice license. This license may be obtained at home through a volunteer examiner. The code test is only 5 words per minute - this can be learned in a week or so. The written test covers some basic definitions and radio laws.

With a Novice license the ham has a number of bands open to him - frequencies good for local, medium and worldwide distances. He can gain the experience and skills needed to pass the higher license exams - General, Advanced, Extra - on the air.

## More Intruder Watchers Needed

The ARRL Intruder Watch is now well into its fourth year of operation, with an impressive record of reports leading to intruders being removed from the amateur bands. Additional work, particularly on the forty meter band, and constant vigilance are necessary.

Volunteers, with two or three years amateur experience and good receiving equipment, who can spend two hours a week logging the calls of non-amateur stations in the amateur bands would be welcomed.

Volunteers please write the Intruder Watch, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111. (From ARRL OB 176).

Traffic totals were: K4GOP 468, W4IYT 214, WA4TWD 49, WA4RRB 45, W4LVV 35, W4-EHW 41, W4IKG 5, and W4YP3 (Viet Nam).

From the above you can see that this project was a cooperative effort in which everyone did his share. There is still much to be done, as yours truly has to get busy and send special QSL cards to all stations contacted. If I have forgotten anybody, it is solely out of a poor memory. K4GOP will have to be recorded as the single most successful public relations event ever staged by the amateurs of this area. C U in 72 (?)

ALWAYS LISTEN BEFORE SENDING!  
DON'T BE A LID!



# NAVY



By Jim Wilson W4GDK-NØWCK

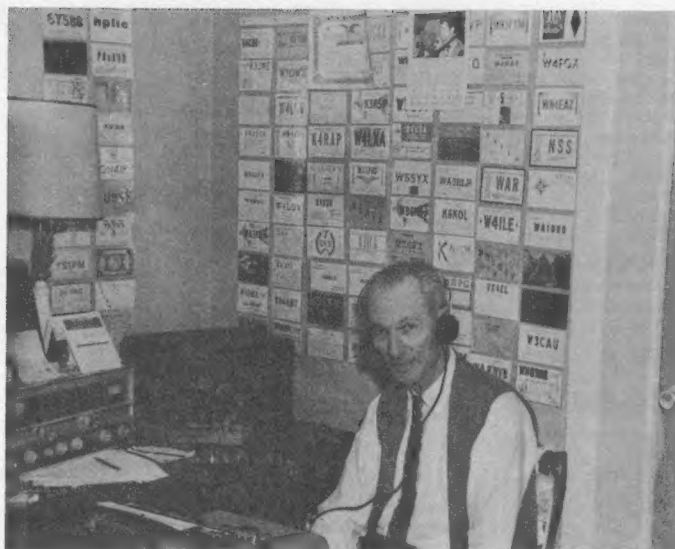
In the South Florida area there is a new administrative set-up. It is as follows: William M. Rowe, Jr. NØITK NØGAL, 1723 Winfield Rd. No., Clearwater, is So. Fla. Area Coordinator. Reporting to him are the Deputy Coord. James H. Robbins NØFWA, Pinellas and the three Section Chiefs. The latter are (N.E. Section) Harvey L. Bachelder NØSQB, Lake Wales; (N.W. & Actg. S.W.) William H. Kibbe, NØEXU, Clearwater; and (S.E.) Charles W. Schiffer, NØUUL, Miami.

The Coordinator requests that participation reports be mailed to your respective Section Chief by the 20th of each month.

The new RTTY and C.W., So. Fla. area training nets are progressing well and are helping to bring trained operators into the District nets. Remember you are welcome to check in these training nets. They handle a lot of traffic also.

Concerning your Viet Nam traffic the hope has been expressed that a Satellite might be fixed in space to provide a reliable relay to the States to avoid the technical breakdowns which sometimes delay the traffic.

With severe lightning storms so prevalent in Florida, we should all give consideration to careful grounding of our antennae or towers during such storms. Sometimes the strike comes in over the 110 volt line. To guard against this, use just as low value fuses in the units as possible. This will help to guard them from lightning on the line.



A REAL OLD-TIMER in Florida and past SCM, Cy Connolly W4DVO of Tampa. Cy likes his c.w. traffic and can be found on QFN or GN nets most of the time. See SKIP DIRECTORY for times and freqs. on Page 13.

The new Editor of the 6th Naval District Bulletin is Jim Cummings NØAPC, St. Petersburg. With the help of all members we are sure he will do a fine job. If you have some news or an idea for a story please send it to Jim. He certainly will appreciate your cooperation.

During May alone there were 449 fone patches from Antarctica and 555 Marsgrams. In the same period there were 10,772 fone patches from Viet Nam and 16,368 Marsgrams. This gives evidence of the support being given by Navy MARS to the Navy establishment throughout the world.

During Armed Forces Day - there were 850 entries in the RTTY and CW receiving contest. Those participants who submitted perfect copies of the Secretary of Defense message will be receiving their certi-

ficate of Merit awards in the near future.

In N.E. Fla., Area Coordinator Georgia Denman commends the Net Control Stations who have been doing such a fine job on the various Navmars nets.

In No. West Fla. Area NØJJB NØWT with their new high inverted Vee antenna are heard with gusto throughout the 6th Naval District.

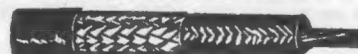
## Antenna Feedlines

The persons who get excited about a 1.2:1 or even a 2:1 VSWR on their antenna feedlines should read what Mosley Electronics, Inc., has to say on the subject. As one of the leading manufacturers of antennas, they are in a spot to speak with authority on the subject. Let's see what they say on the matter in their booklet: "Competent professional antenna engineers generally agree that in most applications a standing wave ratio of up to 5 to 1, or somewhat higher, is satisfactory and acceptable. (This has nothing to do with equipment manufacturer cutbacks which would not permit voltage or current to exceed ratings of components used in the equipment, limiting SWR to a lower value.) Referring to the ARRL Antenna Handbook, we see that a SWR of 5 to 1 in RG-8/U coax will result in a signal loss at 28 MHz of only 1 dB. This decrease in signal strength cannot normally be detected on an S-Meter!"

The next time you hear some jackass braying about the horrible effect of a 2:1 VSWR, just remember how to classify his knowledge of radio transmission lines!

W5EHC

### COAXIAL CABLES



| No.   | Impedance  | No.    | Impedance |
|-------|------------|--------|-----------|
| RG5U  | 52.5 ohms  | RG25U  | 48.0 ohms |
| RG6U  | 75.0 ohms  | RG27U  | 48.0 ohms |
| RG7U  | 97.5 ohms  | RG29U  | 53.5 ohms |
| RG8U  | 52.0 ohms  | RG34U  | 71.0 ohms |
| RG9U  | 61.0 ohms  | RG39U  | 72.5 ohms |
| RG9AU | 61.0 ohms  | RG41U  | 67.5 ohms |
| RG10U | 52.0 ohms  | RG54U  | 58.0 ohms |
| RG11U | 75.0 ohms  | RG54AU | 58.0 ohms |
| RG12U | 75.0 ohms  | RG57U  | 95.0 ohms |
| RG13U | 75.0 ohms  | RG58U  | 53.5 ohms |
| RG18U | 52.0 ohms  | RG59U  | 73.0 ohms |
| RG19U | 52.0 ohms  | RG62U  | 93.0 ohms |
| RG20U | 52.0 ohms  | RG71U  | 93.0 ohms |
| RG22U | 95.0 ohms  | RG74U  | 52.0 ohms |
| RG24U | 125.0 ohms |        |           |

CLIP AND  
SAVE!!!



AMPHENOL AND HARD-TO-GET PARTS

BENDIX

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OUR HUGE  
WAREHOUSE STOCK

# NET NEWS

## FLORIDA MIDDAY TRAFFIC NET

By Herb, W4LSR

Many thanks to those of you who have commented favorably on my attempts to write an interesting column for Skip. My big problem is obtaining news about net members. I try to get on or about net frequency before noon. Please break me with any news about FMTN members.

Much credit is due Tom, W4FP for the job he is doing as Asst. SEC. This was quite evident during the recent EBA program. Welcome back Ed, W4KHY from your motor tour of the Northeast. Ted, WB4CBP and family are off on a second vacation. Ruth, WA4HED seldom misses a session. Wonder what's happened to our other two YL's? It's good to hear Kelley, WA4FJA and Jim, W4VGE check into the net again. Randy, WB4FGW kept the 500C hot during his visit at the home of Ted, WB4CBP. Mack, W4DVR and his XYL are off to St. Louis in her new car to attend a convention. Herb, K4DAX has left us again. This time to Seattle. Keith, WA4QOO is now an NC on the Intercontinental.

I.J., WA4SCK has been sick in bed. Hope it's not from all the work of topping the Top Twenty again with his 634 points last month. Birch, WA4AIW and Joe, WA4FGH are back with us and sharing the "arrival" messages. They won't get any lighter when the Orlando Naval Training Center starts receiving "Boots" in October.

While FMTN led the Nets in June with a QNI of 549 and a QTC of 299 we were unable to deliver messages to some of our Florida cities. We need

Traffic Takers in a number of locations and we welcome all modes. Any station is welcome to check in after Roll Call, with or without traffic and anyone wishing to join the Net may do so by sending a formal message to our Net Manager Clyde, W4SDR in Daytona. Give your call, "handle" and QTH and the day or days of the week you expect to check in. We meet at 12 noon EDT every day but Sunday on 7230 Kh.

FMTN held 28 sessions in July. 611 stations handled 297 messages with an average QNI of 21.8 and an average QNC of 10.6.

## QFN REPORT



By Bob  
Blumberg  
WA4OHO

QFN summer activity picked up some for the month of July. Statistics show that 64 different stations checked in for a total of 667 check-ins, handling 268 pieces of traffic in 942 minutes for an efficient rate of 6.2845 messages per minute.

Some of our newer members are making a fine showing, including WB4HQX, Dave of Daytona Beach and WB4HJW, Don of Venice, who tied for top number of check-ins and was top representative to the Fifth Regional Net for the month of July.

Very happy to hear occasionally from WA5UUB (ex WA4NBT) Winky, now in New Orleans. WB4HKB is off the air for some time, having sold his gear in preparation for entering college next year.

I noticed that many QFN members were active during Field Day. Guess those good CW men are hard to find!

K4FQP is maintaining a watch daily on 3670 kc from 0800 to 0830 for anyone desiring a telephone call into St. Pete. He has several other cities who checked-in on the frequency occasionally. Give it a try!

November 22 is approaching rapidly. Those Code tests will keep many hams from higher class tickets. QFN affords a fine way to get your code speed built up while meeting a great bunch of hams, dedicated to the swift and efficient movement of traffic. Give QFN a try, no matter what your code speed is, the NCS will always slow down for you. CU on QFN, daily at 2230 Z on 7095 kc and 0200 z on 3651 kc.

## FLAMINGO NET NEWS

By W4EDP

Sure has been hot lately, speaking of the weather, and so has the ten meter band, speaking of radio. We have had old timers from all over the country checking into the net lately. Seems as though the skip is no respecter of distance these days. One of the more welcome check ins was K4SDR who now lives at Signal Mountain, Ga. Nice to hear from Russ any time.

WA4BAL has been having antenna miseries again. Seems like Bob's antenna always wants to give trouble on days when the only sensible thing is to sit next to the air conditioner. Seems he found a connection that did not look too good and he cleaned it up and remade the connection and lo and behold the SWR went right up to 3 to 1 at once. Had to change a stub setting to get the darn thing back on the track again, but she is OK now.

Another Bob, WB4JDG, has been having some receiver problems of a rather puzzling nature. Seems the thing will copy AM good, but on SSB it will only work for a few minutes and then die. Finally got that gremlin cornered in the corner of the BFO box and killed it. Bob is now happy again.

Won't be too long now it will be time for the Flamingo Net barbeque and auction. Guess we better get busy and set a date and stuff pretty quick before ole daddy time sneaks up on us.

Come on up to 29,044 any Friday at around 730 and meet some real nice rag chewing type people.

## JOIN



## TOP TWENTY TRAFFIC TAKERS

Each month we are happy to list the top twenty traffic takers in Florida. Next month we hope to see your call here.

|           |         |            |    |
|-----------|---------|------------|----|
| 1. W4BKC  | 332     | 11. WA4LJH | 70 |
| 2. WB4AIW | 319     | 12. W4UQZ  | 67 |
| 3. WA4NEV | 306     | 13. WB4HJW | 59 |
| 4. WA4SCK | 279     | 14. WB4DSP | 53 |
| 5. K4EHY  | 258     | 15. K4COO  | 45 |
| 6. W4FP   | BPL 132 | 16. WB4FGW | 44 |
| 7. W4SDR  | 97      | 17. W4SMK  | 40 |
| 8. WB4EPD | 85      | 18. W4VDC  | 39 |
| 9. WA4HED | 81      | 19. W4NGR  | 35 |
| 10. K4LEC | 80      | 20. W4AKB  | 34 |

## TRAFFIC HOUNDS

By Jesse H. Morris, W4MVB

| NET   | QNI | AV. QNI | QTC | AV. QTC | SESS |
|-------|-----|---------|-----|---------|------|
| FMTN  | 641 | 21.8    | 297 | 10.6    | 28   |
| TPTN  | 576 | 21.2    | 143 | 5.29    | 27   |
| FPTN  | 420 | 15.5    | 101 | 4.0     | 27   |
| QFN   | 607 | 9.79    | 268 | 4.32    | 62   |
| GATOR | 198 | 6.12    | 105 | 3.12    | 31   |
| FATT  | 50  | 1.6     | 14  | 0.5     | 31   |
| WFPN  | 428 | 13.8    | 28  | .9      | 31   |

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ON AIR

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## Army Mars Fla.-1 Picnic-Meeting

By Herb Nelson, K4AZ

The annual Florida-1 Army MARS picnic-meeting was held in Keystone Heights on July 28 with 56 members and family present. The youngest guest was 6-week old son of O.L. Joiner AD4YPY.

The XYL's set out a spread of the best cooking in the world and strangely enough there was not much left over.

The business meeting was called by Bill Wells, AA4RDP, Master of Ceremonies, who called on Wade Nelm A4ZNY, Director of Third Army MARS. He spoke on present and future plans for MARS. A "Sock It To Him" session was held and Wade answered all questions successfully. Ed Croft AD4B-

YI, District Director Florida-1, thanked the outgoing District Director, Larry Fulstone AD4RON, for doing such a commendable job this past year. Ed Hanum A4EY, District Director Florida-2 spoke briefly and expressed gratitude for the splendid co-operation found in Florida MARS and mentioned the reactivation of the KILO Net as a CW training and improvement net. The KILO Net meets on

4025 at 10:00 A.M. Saturdays, the host and chairman, Herb Nelson AA4AZ, was complimented on a job well done. This is the fourth time the group has met in Keystone Heights and we may hold the next meeting in Marianna.

Prize drawings were held after meeting and all members won at least two valuable pieces of surplus equipment. Gag prizes were awarded to Nelm and

other members present.

Herb and Lola Nelson entertained the "Early Birds" on Saturday night at their home on Lake Geneva. Guests included AD4BYI, A4EY, A4FR, AA4RDP, AD4WAR, AD4WNW, AD4YPY, A4ZIM, A4ZNY and the XYLs. All seemed to enjoy the gathering, because we almost started another session Sunday afternoon!

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# Florida SKIP DIRECTORY

*Each month you will find the following listings. Keep it handy. ARRL Officials are listed free. Florida Nets are listed free upon notification from net manager. Clubs listed for \$12.00 per year. (Free to clubs taking box ads elsewhere.) Any individual amateur may be listed for \$5.00 a year. (The ones who really care.) Let's fill up this page!*

## ARRL LISTINGS

Director, S.E. Division  
CHARLES BOLVIN W4LVV  
2210 S.W. 27th Lane  
Miami, Florida 33133

Vice Director, S.E. Div.  
A.L. HAMEL, K4SJH  
220 N.E. 25th Street  
Pompano Beach, Fla. 33064

SCM E. Florida  
JESSE MORRIS, W4MVB  
P.O. Box 1241  
Jacksonville Beach  
Florida 32051

Asst. SCM  
WILLIAM G. BLASINGAME  
WA4NEV  
716 Magnolia Street  
Neptune Beach, Fla. 32050

SCM West Florida  
FRANK M. BUTLER, Jr. W4RKH  
323 Elliott Rd., S.E.  
Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. 32548

SEC East Florida  
ANDY CLARK, W4IYT  
41 Lenape Drive  
Miami Springs, Fla. 33166

SEC West Florida  
G.D. McKECHNIE, W4IKB  
1000 N. 6th Street  
Chipley, Florida 32428

Asst. SEC East Florida  
TOM CHISHOLM, W4FP  
P.O. Box 2273  
Lakeland, Florida 33803

NET LISTINGS  
QFN (all Florida)  
Daily 2230 & 0200Z  
3651 kc. Net Managers  
W4BVE/WA4OHO

FSBA Sundays  
2200Z on 3940 kc.

FSBEN Thursday  
0030Z on 3940 kc.

KNIGHTS OF KILOCYCLE,  
Sundays  
1100Z on 3910 kc.

GATOR NET (GN)  
Daily 1230 on 3651 kc  
and 1630 on 7115 kc  
Net Manager: K4COO

TROPICAL PHONE TRAFFIC  
NET (TPTN)  
Daily except Sunday, 2100 on  
3945 kc.  
Net Manager: WB4EDP

FLA. AMATEUR SIDEBAND  
TRAFFIC NET  
(FAST) Daily except Sat.  
2200 on 3940 kc.  
Net Manager: WB4DSP

WEST FLORIDA PHONE NET  
(WFPN)  
Daily 2200z on 3957 kc.  
Net Manager: W7BNR/4

FLA. PHONE TRAFFIC  
NET Mon. thru Sat.,  
1100Z on 3945 kc. Net  
Mgr: WA4CIQ

NOVICE HURRICANE NET  
(NHN) Sat. & Sun.  
1830Z on 7165 kc.  
Net Manager: WA4YAK

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Wed. 2000 Local  
Net Mgr.: WB4BMR

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NET  
6 Mtrs. 50.445 mc Mon. 2000 local  
2 Mtrs. 145.23 mc Tues. 2000 local  
WB4CKY, EC Broward Co., Mgr.

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INDIVIDUAL LISTINGS  
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Regards to all our friends.

## More On Auto Inspections

Dear Mr. McKechnie: (W4IKB)  
In response to your request  
on amateur radio tags and when

### CLUB LISTING

BROWARD AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB W4AB  
2nd Wednesday, 8 p.m.  
Broward County Medical Bldg.  
2200 S. Andrews Ave.  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8673  
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33310  
More info. call: 522-2606, 933-3208

DADE RADIO CLUB, INC.  
(W4NVU) 1st & 3rd Tuesday,  
Museum of Science  
3280 So. Miami Avenue  
Miami, Florida  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 73  
Biscayne Annex  
Miami, Florida 33152

NORTH FLORIDA AMATEUR  
RADIO SOCIETY W4IZ  
2nd Thursday, 7:30 P.M.  
Duval CD Headquarters  
107 Market Street  
Jacksonville, Fla. 32202

ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR  
RADIO CLUB, Inc. W4GAC  
Meetings: 1st Friday  
FPC Lineman's Assembly Hall,  
25th St. & 25th Ave., N.  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4026  
For information phone:  
544-1856 or 526-6731

ORLANDO AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB, INC. - W4PLB  
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Club House: Davis Islands,  
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Mailing Address: 943 Cimmer-  
on Ave., Tampa, Fla. 33603

they should be inspected the fol-  
lowing will be an attempt to  
clarify any misunderstanding.

As you well know, when we  
began our Inspection Program,  
it was based on the last digit of  
the tag number starting with  
four and five in June; six and  
seven in July; eight and nine in  
August; zero and one in Septem-  
ber; and two and three in Octo-  
ber. The month of November  
was designated for special tags.  
It has been the ruling of this De-  
partment that the ham radio op-  
erator tags would qualify as  
special tags; therefore, they  
must be inspected in November.  
I might point out that there is  
nothing that would prevent any  
ham radio operator from having  
their cars inspected before this  
month.

The one exception to the above  
rule is in Dade County as we had  
to "grandfather" them into our  
Program because they were op-  
erating a previous inspection  
program for many years. It was  
decided that we would accept all  
Dade County inspection certifi-  
cates and instead of using the  
ending digit in the tag number  
that we would use the expiration  
date on all existing Dade County  
certificates. This would mean  
that anybody living or working  
in Dade County must abide by  
the expiration date of the cer-  
tificate rather than tag num-  
bers. If they do not have an in-  
spection certificate, they must  
obtain one immediately in Dade  
County.

I hope that this information  
is satisfactory and will help  
clear some of the many ques-  
tions that you have been receiv-  
ing. If additional information  
is needed, please do not hesitate  
to contact this office.

Very truly yours,  
C.C. REYNOLDS, Captain  
Chief, Motor Vehicle Inspection  
Tallahassee, Florida

## Ex-Calls

Here are some more EX-  
Calls, have you sent in yours?

W4DKJ ex AL (before ama-  
teur tickets came) 2GY ("Gar-  
den City") Shack at Radio  
Broadcast Magazine 1921-1925,  
W2USA 1939-40, W2DKJ, 1930-  
1947.

K4AZ ex W3LG, 9KW, 9DIL  
(Spark).

W4LI ex W4LZM, W5DMS,  
E4EYQ, WB4JNP ex XWA8-  
VGA, K4FMA ex ET3FMA, 9F-  
3FMA.

## 'Country-Cousins'

The "Country Cousins" had a picnic and get-together, July 6 and 7th, at Alachua, Florida. Those coming from Georgia and other distant points, made their headquarters at the Holiday Inn.

Gathering in the Demonstration Building, in the City Park, the large group enjoyed their picnic lunches, amid a babble of "yacking". The food being disposed of, there was a session of picture taking of all the "Cousins". Then W4PWB-Walt and XYL, Edna-K4CSC started the music and Walt gave some instructions in square dancing. Walt, being an old pro at the business, even had W4THO-Joe Gray's mother-in-law, Mrs. Brown, age 92, dancing right along with the crowd. Needless to say, the rain, which lasted about an hour, did not dampen anyone's spirits. Finally, those who had to return home, bade their adieus and we all parted with a vote of thanks to WA4-YPY-O.L. Joiner, who did most of the "foot work" in the arrangements.

In the evening, a pleasant time was had, with those remaining, gathered around the pool at the Holiday Inn, some even went in swimming. Sunday, after breakfast, we finally all left and headed for the various QTHs. All agreed that this should be done more often and better luck next time to those who missed a wonderful time.

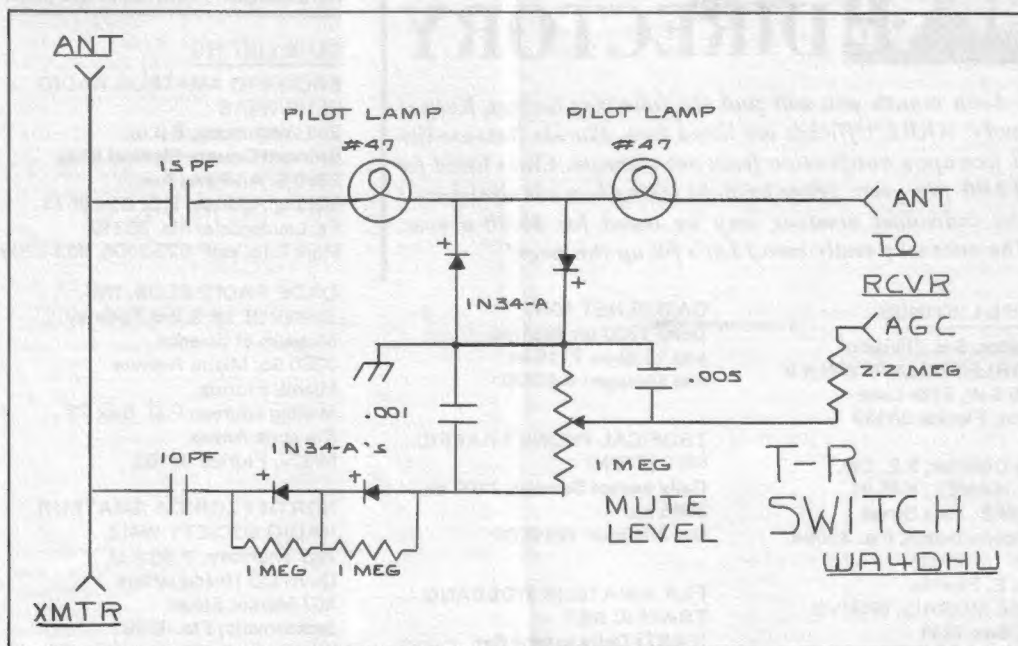
The "Country Cousins" are a group meeting on the air nightly at 10 P.M., 3970 KC., who do much good, as described in article in Florida, issue April 1968.

Cathy Soehl  
W4BAV/AREA

**SUPPORT YOUR  
LOCAL CLUB!**

## Poor Man's T-R Switch

By DICK BLASCO, WA4DHU - Special Assistant to the Editor



Here's a dandy little evening project that will delight any CW man's heart. This circuit is a refinement of a design which is simple and effective. The pilot lamps have a characteristic low resistance when not lit and relatively high resistance as more current passes through them. A high-level signal (from the transmitter) will exceed the contact potential of the 1N34A diodes and cause them to conduct, drawing current through the bulb. The bulb glows and acts to isolate the receiver from the antenna line. The circuit shown includes an additional lamp in the receiver lead for extra protection of the antenna coils.

Some of the RF energy is also sampled and rectified to provide a muting voltage. Simply connect this output to the AGC line of any modern receiver and adjust the mute level for desired signal level. This circuit only works with the AGC fully active, of course.

The circuit shown will work well at power levels up to 100

watts. Additional power may be handled by inserting additional pilot lamps in series with the 15 pf capacitor. This unit causes some loss in received signal strength, but its simplicity and effectiveness far outweigh this in all but the most insensitive receivers. If you aren't full QSK by now, spend an evening and join the fun!

**WELL POSTED** - the term posted, in the sense of informed is colloquial, and it is avoided by careful speakers. Instead of saying "He is well posted on foreign affairs," say "He is well informed on foreign affairs." Don't ask someone to keep you posted on the progress of plans; ask him to keep you informed.

**TOOK SICK** - took is the past tense of the verb take, and requires a noun, or a part of speech serving as a noun, to complete its meaning, but never an adjective, such as sick. You do not take sick; you become sick, or you may become ill.

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## FCC to the Aid

Vagrant Radiation brought FCC to the aid of FAA in the Los Angeles district to clear interference from around Los Alamitos airfield. Trouble was traced to a nearby housing tract and pinpointed to a garage door opener, which the owner volunteered to stop using. But, FCC men found that the development builder had installed openers with each house, and the manufacturer was then out of business. So, FCC had to take 41 of the devices off the air.



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FOR SALE: Brand new New-Tronics Husler 80 meter resonator RM-75 up to 400 watts SSB. \$9.00. Knight x-10 100 kc crystal calibrator \$10.00. New Dow Key coaxial relay DK60-2C 1000 watts, 110 v.a.c. in box \$10.00. Hammarlund HK-1B electronic keyer \$22. Poucel Electronics EL-KEY Lever, like new \$9.00. Radiart Tele-Rotator indicator only TR-2 \$5.00. Seco Electronics, "S" Meter model 540 (transistorized) will work or any set. \$6.00. Elco RTMA resistance Box model 1100, 15 ohms to 10 Meg. in 36 steps \$9.50. Antenna Specialists, heavy duty chrome with spring antenna mount - like brand new yet \$6.00. Gonset Super-Six, clean works fine \$10.00. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Drive, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166 Phone 888-3874.

FOR SALE: HT32 80-10 SSG rig \$225.00, Globe King 500A 160-10 meters, makes 700 watt pep final, ALC \$200.00, 4KVA Generator \$200.00. John V. Smith, 1924 Dolphin Blvd., St. Petersburg, FL, 33707.

FOR SALE: Perfect condition HT-32 and SX-101 spare tubes - pick up \$325.00, R. W. Ellis, WB4KXA, 2320 - 55th Ave. No., St. Petersburg, FL, 33714, Phone 526-8923.

WANTED: NC - 300 C 2 Converter. State price and condition. Jim Morgan, W4VLK, 5012 Perrine Drive, Jacksonville, FL, 32210.

FOR SALE: Drake R-4 with MS-4 speaker \$250.00. Looks and works like new. Ben Letson, W4BGO, 3525 E. Forest Lake Drive, Sarasota, FL, 33580, Phone 924-3415.

FOR SALE: Swan 250 with 117XC Power Supply, 9 months old, in very good condition, \$320.00. Will take part cash and SR-46 in trade. Joseph E. Warren WA4RVT, 3402 San Pedro St., Tampa, Fla. 33609, Phone 831-7513. (Paid Adv.)

FOR SALE: 40 ft. steel tower, 20 ft. sections, \$10.00. Guy wires included. Robert J. Sweeney, WA4JWV, 1555 SW 21st Terrace, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. Phone 581-2065.

FOR SALE: EICO 145A multi-signal tracer kit in original sealed factory carton, never opened. \$20.00. Frank Nankin, K4BNZ, 1000-88th St., Surlside, Fla. Phone 866-2351.

AMATEUR - WHOLESALE ELECTRONICS (Div. of Int'l Electronic Systems, Inc.) 280 Aragon Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134. Phone: 444-6206.

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FOR SALE: Hallcrafters HT40, Heath Twoer, like new used less than 20 hours, AMECO 6 meter converter 7-11 MHZ IF. All reasonable offers considered. Write or call Paul Alberts, 9030 SW 64th St., Miami, Fla. 33143, Phone 271-5231. (Paid adv.)

FOR SALE: RADIO 1934 to 1945. RG 1934 to 1945. CQ 1950 to 1965. QST 1929 to 1960. Take all at \$1.00 per year, plus 125 odds and ends of QST. Pete Peterson, W4OBB, 2215 St. John Ave., Palatka, Fla. 32077. (Paid adv.)

FOR SALE: Knight T-60 6 to 80 meter transmitter \$35.00 or trade for 2 meter converter. Charles J. Mott WB4HVM, 218 Tropical Breeze, Clearwater, Fla. 33515.

FOR SALE: Valiant SSB-10 clean sounding SSB rig both \$170.00. SX-101A receiver with national 6-meter converter both \$200.00. HW-22 with mobile mike, HP-23 (a.c.), HP-13 (d.c.) all for \$140.00. Heath Sixer with mobile supply both \$30.00. All equipment in perfect working order. Roger Skinner K3JMP/4, 3105 Buckley Ave., Lake Worth, Fla. Phone 967-0954.

FOR SALE: Complete station, mobile or fixed, SBE-33 transceiver with mike, mount and 12 v.c. supply and 125 v.a.c. supply, 1500 watt PEP linear amp with 813's in grounded grid, solid state power supply, band switching 10 thru 80 meters. In A-1 condition only \$300.00 for all or what am I offered. Glenn H. Walker, W4WVZ, 1480 San Charles Dr., Dunedin, Fla. 33528, Phone 733-8127.

WANTED: 4CX1000A or 4CX1500A and socket. Sell or trade KWM-1 DX adapter kit (new). W. Cooper K4ZZV, 9302 N.W. 2nd Pl., Miami Shores, Fla. 33150. Phone 757-1718.

FOR SALE: Johnson Match-box (small one) \$38.00. TA-33 Jr. beam \$45.00. Both in good condition. Harry Conowal WA4OFS, 5025 N.W. 178th Terr., Opa-Locka, Fla. 33054. Phone 624-4628.

FOR SALE: Heath gear, mint condition: SB-100, 5 band transceiver \$250. HW-12, 75 meter transceiver \$75.00. HP-23 a.c. power supply \$40.00. HP-13 d.c. supply \$50.00. W.C. Swanson W4VHS, 1293 Indian Rocks Rd., Largo, Fla. 33540.

FOR SALE: SWAN 350 complete with 117XC power supply, xtal calibrator and SSB selection. Factory modifications only and in mint condition on air will sked. Only \$365.00 plus shipping. Ted Wayne WB4CBP, 8250 SW 108th St., Miami, Fla. Phone 271-4796.

FOR SALE: HW-12 \$85.00, HQ-170A \$190.00. Pair of good 813's \$8.00 ea. Motorola coffin boxes converted to 2 meter FM with nuvistor preamp \$25. No trades please. J.B. Wilchar WA4MGG, 12371 SW 188th St., Maimi, Fla. 33157. Phone 235-8936 after 5 p.m.

WANTED: Heath SB-610, Heath SB-620, Elco Xcvt 753, SRL "84" 24 hr. clock, 6 position co-ax switch, Hunter Bandit 2000, Trade: Vertical 18AVQ-Jr. beam, SX-101 receiver, heavy duty prop pitch motor. Doug Rice WA4NZI, 7420 S.W. 5th St., Plantation, Fla. 33314 Phone 587-6036.

FOR SALE: Elco model 377 audio signal generator with manual \$19.95. PANADAPTER Model PCA2 (455khz IF) with manual \$24.95. Free 1VTV-M (Electronic Designs) needs microammeter. Howard Stark, WA4MTH, 9231 Caribbean Blvd., Miami, Fla. Phone 238-6430.

FOR SALE: 65 foot aluminum tower, Ham-M Rotor with Mosley TA36 Beam sold complete only. Bargain \$325.00. See it at 14400 SW 81st Ave., Miami, Fla. Samuel H. Traeger, Phone 373-6559 or 235-3018. (Paid adv.)

TRANSFORMERS REWOUND. Jess Price, W4CLJ, 411 Bunby Ave., Orlando, Fla. 32801.

FOR SALE: Communicator IV (Gonset 2 meter), with both AC and DC (12 v) Power supplies and mobile mount in clean condition \$200.00. John Schindler, W4RFA, 14720 Avocado Drive, Leisure City, Fla. Phone 247-0479.

FOR SALE: 40 ft. tilt over tower, Ham-M Rotor, 3 element Thunderbird Beam, TH 3 MK2, 3 bands - 1 KW, used 5 months, excellent condition. Lon Brickley, W4AFS, 1675 NW 4th Ave., Apt. 908, Boca Raton, Fla. 33432. Phone Pompano Beach 943-0710. (Paid Adv.)

## Days In History

Most regretfully we now record the recent passing of Forrest W. Dana, W4AGR, (Capt. USNR) who, in some distant ham Valhalla is reunited with Ralph Hollis, W4AFC, (Ensign, USNR) who aboard USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor on the day of infamy with whom, in 1928 and in the teeth of one of the most vicious tropical hurricanes on record, he constructed a complete amateur station from scraps and commandeered BC receivers and maintained and operated that station - South Florida's only link with the outside world - for a number of agonizing days. Though the world at large must recall this occasion through the medium of the news services which chronicled the feat, many will remember them as living personalities - ready and willing to advise and inspire newcomers (including a 1932-type novice, W4BRB). We believe and we hold that Dana and Hollis personify the highest ideals of Ham Radio's public service aspect and, with this thought, we offer their names as Florida's logical candidates to an Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

"Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea. Though the waters thereof rage and swell, and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same ....."

Ps.46:2,3  
(FDXC Report, W4BRB)

## GUEST EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

challenge in bloodless tonsorialectomies - which have also been reputed to spoil the participants. Come to think of it, we did try the one and were spoiled; presently we shall test the other but we know it won't score on us - for old brass-pounders never die! But, do they spoil away?

(From Fla. DX Report)

